



# First Christian Reformed Church of Lynden

## From Generation to Generation for the Glory of God

### ***God's precious and exceedingly great promises in hard times***

***Colossians 3:16*** *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

### **Scripture**

***1 Peter 1:24–25*** *The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever.*

#### **James 1:2-4, 12**

<sup>2</sup> Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, <sup>3</sup> for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. <sup>4</sup> And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him.

#### **I Peter 4:12-13**

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

#### **I Peter 5:6-7, 10-11**

<sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, <sup>7</sup> casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

<sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup> To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

### **Song**

***Psalms 59:16*** *But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.*

[You can Google the hymn to hear it if you would like to sing along.]

#### ***God moves in a mysterious way***

God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform;  
he plants his footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines of never-failing skill  
he treasures up his bright designs, and works his sov'reign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds ye so much dread  
are big with mercy, and shall break in blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense, but trust him for his grace;  
behind a frowning providence he hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding ev'ry hour;  
the bud may have a bitter taste, but sweet will be the flow'r.

Blind unbelief is sure to err, and scan his work in vain;  
God is his own interpreter, and he will make it plain.

## **Prayer**

*Hebrews 4:16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

Grant, Almighty God, that as You constantly remind us in Your word, and have taught us by so many examples, that there is nothing permanent in this world, but that the things which seem the firmest tend to ruin, and instantly fall and of themselves vanish away, when by Your breath You shake that strength in which men trust—O grant that we, being really subdued and humbled, may not rely on earthly things, but raise up our hearts and our thoughts to heaven, and there fix the anchor of our hope; and may all our thoughts abide there until at length, when You have led us through our course on earth, we shall be gathered into that celestial kingdom which has been obtained for us by the blood of Your only-begotten Son. Amen."

[Prayer of John Calvin based on Nahum 2:8]